

**Abstract**

Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) specific polypeptides consisting of a series of one to 1000 peptide units selected from the group consisting of peptide units  $\Phi$ ,  $\Gamma$ ,  $\Delta$  and  $\Omega$ , wherein  $\Phi$  is 25 amino acids or less and has the formula ( $\alpha$ ETFTETWNRFFITHTE $\beta$ ) (SEQ ID NO:1),  $\Gamma$  is 25 amino acids or less and has the formula ( $\alpha$ GMLEASEGLDGWIHQ $\beta$ ) (SEQ ID NO:2),  $\Delta$  is 25 amino acids or less and has the formula ( $\alpha$ HQQGGWSTLIEDNIP $\beta$ ) (SEQ ID NO:3),  $\Omega$  is 25 amino acids or less and has the formula ( $\alpha$ KQKHPKKVKQAFNPL $\beta$ ) (SEQ ID NO:4),  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are each independently from 0 to 5 naturally occurring amino acids, and the polypeptide is capable of binding antibody in a specimen from an individual with Epstein-Barr virus (EBV)-associated disease are disclosed. Also disclosed are the use of these polypeptides for the production of polypeptide-specific antibodies and the diagnosis and treatment of EBV-associated disease.